

VIRGINIA



GAZETTE.

With the latest Advices,

Foreign and Domestick.

WILLIAMSBURG, SEPTEMBER 1.

To the PRINTER.

S I R,

I HOPE the Gentlemen, who have so very politely honoured me with their notice, will not think themselves too much neglected by my long silence; I was willing to know the most that could be said in support of their opinions, that I might have the whole in view at once; and have, at last, employed a "serious hour," as my very good friend, the "Honest Buckskin" seems to advise, in reviewing my own conduct, and considering his with several other performances, which the publick has been lately favoured with; but am so little conscious of having transgressed the bounds either of truth or decency, that I now resume my pen to acquaint the Gentlemen that I have survived all their most violent and furious attacks, and that the oftener I "look with attention into our political system," the more I am confirmed, and this not a little by the assistance of their own observations, in the sentiments which I formerly adopted.

I am very sensible that an author's "name can add but little merit to his performance;" it was not through ostentation, or a vain conceit that the "weight of my respect," as it is flougingly termed, would have any influence upon the reader, that I ventured to publish my name to the world, but because I chose rather to be certainly known, than suspected of writing any thing, which I dared not openly avow; and I take this opportunity of declaring that I have not been concerned either in writing or dictating one single syllable of any of the pieces which have been published upon either of the subjects so much agitated, except that, which I subscribed my name to. Had I inclined to conceal myself, I could easily have dressed up my thoughts in a borrowed, disguised habit; I might have asked the patronage of some distinguished character, or I could, though in the neighbourhood of the press, have readily conveyed a letter through the channel of the Post Office, as if from an inhabitant of a distant part of the country; but all these little arts I detest. It may be agreeable and perhaps convenient for some men to play behind the curtain; if they have found any advantage in their attempts to wound me from their secret covert, they are extremely welcome to the enjoyment of it. One Gentleman, I own, has obliged us with his name; I commend him for it and acknowledge his fairness in this, though perhaps it may be very justly questioned in every other instance.

The Gentlemen have, one and all, entirely mistaken their man: And though some of them have been polite enough to dispute my veracity in other things, for reasons best known to themselves, they may venture to believe me, when I assure them that I am not to be dismayed or overborn by a torrent of words, and I hope the eyes of the publick are as little apt to be blinded by a specious kind of reasoning, however nicely varnished. We are informed that "every thing at this juncture seems to be carried to excess," and that some late "occurrences portend a malady working in the bowels of the Government, which may break out with inveterate fury, unless restrained by the lenient applications of wisdom and the good offices of men of virtue;" genteel reproof! pretty; benevolent thought! worthy the pen and character of a REAL MENTRIOT! but then he should have limited his censure and not suffered it to fall indiscriminately: Another Gentleman tells us of "feuds" which must naturally flow, as man's "connexions and engagements are such in the world;" but why, in the name of goodness, should "feuds" or animosities arise, especially at this season, when we have abundant reason, upon many accounts, rather to rejoice and felicitate each other? If, indeed, some amongst us have so far persuaded themselves of their own or their friend's importance, as that no man may venture to differ with them in opinion, or dare to speak the truth without incurring their highest displeasure and indignation; if, from such a source as this, clamours have arisen in the country, let them be ascribed to their proper authors, but let not the innocent be involved with the guilty: Under which of these two classes I ought justly to be ranked must be submitted to the candid and impartial.

The motives of my conduct I was far from thinking material to the publick; though in justice to myself, I hoped to be excused for mentioning them; whether commendable or not, if they have done the work of better in opening the eyes of the generality of my countrymen, my primary and principal views are satisfied. I could have enlarged upon this head: I might with truth, as a full proof of my disinterestedness, have informed the reader, that before I offered my service to his Honour the Governor, I proposed the subject to a worthy Gentleman of this city, and desired him to apply for the office; but I had not, at the time I wrote, his permission to mention this circumstance, and therefore declined it.

Gentlemen entirely mistake the nature of things if they suppose every subject will admit of the same kind of evidence. The observations which I took the liberty of laying before the publick, and which are again submitted, were of two sorts; the former parts of them are most properly and decently to be referred to the observations and serious consideration of an honest, upright mind; in the use of these I could have intended no reflection upon others,

as I plainly and openly allowed myself to be subject to their infirmities: The latter part of my argument, which seemed to me so very essentially to concern the good faith and credit of the country, I own ought to be deducible from plain facts, which, if questioned, it must be incumbent upon me to prove; this, material as it must appear to every candid reader, the Gentlemen have thought fit to throw out of the "debate," as the most concise, and therefore, I suppose in their opinions, the most proper method of answering it. But why do I mention these things when my title to speak at all upon the subject is by some called in question? By the principles and laws of our constitution the whole community has a right to be acquainted with every thing of importance which happens in the country; by a particular act of our Legislature, establishing the Courts of Claims, as they are called, the people have an undoubted right to make their propositions and explain their grievances in a decent, proper manner to every General Assembly; but how can they do this unless they are first thoroughly acquainted with them? How will they gain a knowledge of things, unless they are first informed? And how can they be informed, unless they are spoke to? Have not some of these very Gentlemen, who are so very liberal in censuring me for publishing my thoughts on this subject, been even lavish in their praises and encomiums upon hints given to the publick on other occasions, when they happened to coincide with their own inclinations and fancies? Have not some of them, through the same channel more than once, favoured us with their lucubrations? But perhaps certain doctors were the proper subjects of animadversion. Is it not the valuable and boasted privilege of an Englishman that he can speak his thoughts with freedom? But all these things, we are told, should be done with "decency;" I grant it; and let but some certain Gentlemen be sole masters and judges of the criterion; allow them to determine what is "decent" and what not, and every thing in their opinions will and must go right; we shall then find our papers ringing with the endless advantages which attend the unrestrained liberties of a press. I claim no other, than the right and privilege of a freeman; it was chiefly to assert this, as I know some people are apt to value themselves a little too much for their possessions, that I mentioned my having some "stake" in the country, and not from any principle of vanity, as I am far from thinking any thing I possess worth boasting of. Let such, as complain of my being over hasty in giving them my "productions," ascribe it chiefly to the sudden meeting of the Assembly which was talked of; it has been usual in matters of importance after they have been deliberated upon in the House of Burgesses to publish the bill proposed to be enacted into a law, that the whole country might consider and give their opinions of it; I might have been mistaken, but the subject under consideration appeared to me of as lasting import to the credit of this colony as any thing which ever came before the Assembly; and from the nature of it, I knew it must be finally settled at the next session; these conspiring with other circumstances satisfied me that the justice due to the country required that some person should SPEAK OUT on the occasion; and it would have afforded me real satisfaction, if Gentlemen would have done it without passion or prejudice.

I was very apprehensive, and in this it seems I was far from being mistaken, that any thing, which could be said to the purpose would probably give offence to some; I would gladly have avoided mentioning the late Treasurer's name or office; but the justice which I owed myself, constrained me to it in one instance, and the nature of my subject in some others: Let me not be mistaken; I am not sensible of having done any thing amiss, and therefore not in the least disposed to make an apology; I am as little inclined, on this occasion, to pay compliments to the living, as I am to say an untruth of the dead. Had the late Gentleman's private character been material in the question, I would with pleasure have set the example in endeavouring to pay that just tribute of praise to his memory, which is confessedly due to it for those many good qualities, which adorned his life; I will now go further, and with that all of us, whom he has left behind him, would imitate him in the exercise of those social, christian virtues which were so conspicuous in his character; but these are things of a private nature, with which the publick was little further concerned, than in the influence of his good example; what have they then to do with the present subject? If we should all of us consider them in the same unbounded light, that some Gentlemen seem to do, private virtues, amiable as they are, might become publick vices, and prove the means of destroying a whole country, at least the credit of it, which is its most essential, its vital part; as to what I have said of his publick conduct as Treasurer of this colony, I shall be ready to justify it whenever I am put upon a fair and candid trial; I will do more; I will undertake to satisfy any impartial person that I was even cautious and tender in what I said about the affairs of the Treasury, and this because I happened to be in the office.

I find that some of my observations have been strangely mistaken. One Gentleman seems to represent me as charging former Assemblies with "squeezing money out of the people in order to divide it amongst themselves;" but nothing could be further from my intentions; I did not allude to the Assembly at all in this expression; it would have been preposterous and ridiculous in me to have done

so. I was a Member when most of the taxes were imposed, and it is well known I not only voted for, but promoted them, as I thought the exigencies of the country and my duty obliged me. His rule of putting the most favourable construction upon words is a very good one, but this can hardly justify him in drawing a conclusion from those words, which they will not bear. I must remind him of another rule; he ought, if he is disposed to judge with candour, to consider every thing written by the same author in one collective view, and not, by picking out the member of a sentence, much less a single word, distort his meaning and force him to speak a language foreign to his thoughts; had this been attended to, the Gentleman would have found me in a subsequent paragraph acknowledging the emission of our paper money, for the redemption of which the taxes were imposed, "a necessary though disagreeable expedient;" if an explanation is necessary, my meaning was this; I considered the difficulty with which some, and the reluctance with which others, I supposed, might have paid the taxes, so that the money, without any great impropriety, might be said to be squeezed from them by the collectors, whom I considered as the agents; but what I chiefly designed as the office of this particular word, which the Gentleman has rattled through so many parts of his performance, was, that it should act as in contrast or opposition to the lavish hand with which the money had been "thrown back into circulation." Let me advise him to learn from hence not to celebrate his victory before he is sure of obtaining it. The insinuations thrown out of my designing to reflect upon the late Gentleman, as if I thought he had "embezzled" the publick money, or upon his debtors or securities, as if there was any danger of the money's being entirely lost to the country, are all equally ill natured as they are groundless; with respect to the first, I declare upon my honour, that I never had the least doubt of his intention to charge himself with every shilling, which came to his hands, or for which he ought to have been accountable; and I cannot discover the least hint, in what I wrote, to the contrary; I know I have always declared my opinion quite the reverse, and it has given me pain to hear any thing like a *peculation* suggested. As to the securities, I do not know even at this time who they are, and never had any doubt of their sufficiency; nor do I know who are the debtors, except from what I may accidentally have heard in conversation and a few circumstances which necessarily fell under my notice; neither of these things has been the object of my inquiries; besides I knew, from report, that the Gentleman had a large estate of his own, which through mistake and not with design, was omitted to be mentioned. I asked the question, it is true, and repeat it again, "whether the credit of the country must depend upon the sums which may be received of his debtors and securities," and I ought to have added his own estate, "or whether there must be a new tax laid upon the people?" This I did from my knowledge of the extreme difficulties, which have attended the collection of any considerable sums, even in the best of times; and because I thought it highly worthy the publick's consideration whether some method could not be fallen upon to make the best of our misfortune by convincing the world that we are resolved, to the utmost of our power, to preserve the publick faith; this indeed may possibly be done with facility, if a Gentleman is right in supposing that the "arrears of the taxes" when paid and such money as may be received in the present year's "collection," which ought to sink other notes, can with propriety and justice be applied to make good the present deficiency.

An attempt to pursue the Gentlemen through a regular course of reasoning in reply to their several observations would require more time, than I am able to spare at present, and I fear would be tiresome both to you and your readers; I will therefore only desire your further indulgence for a few queries to each of them, and perhaps now and then a short remark; this seems the concise method I can fall upon, and I hope, though it may appear a little cramped, that it will not be disagreeable; especially when I assure you, it shall be the last trouble I will give you on the occasion, as I hope the publick will suspend their opinions of any thing which may be said of me hereafter, until I have an opportunity of justifying myself elsewhere.

Is not the question now under consideration, tho' of great importance to the community, in its nature plain and easy to be understood? Are we most likely to fix upon what is just and for the real interest of the country by suffering ourselves to be hurried away with passion, or by considering things calmly and giving our reason full and fair play? Is it an instance of candour, in writing upon any subject, to address ourselves to the passions of our readers and thereby endeavour to divert their attentions from the proper object? Or is it fair to endeavour to raise their resentments against a man because he happens to differ with us in opinion? Can it be thought material in the present debate who first proposed the disunion of our Treasury from the Speaker's Chair? Ought not the question to be considered abstractedly, and stand or fall by its own merits? Why has a Gentleman who formerly presided over us been introduced into the debate? Was it for want of a better argument to fill up a space? Or was it not rather to revive the disagreeable remembrance of an unlucky occurrence, which occasioned the unhappy difference between that Gentleman and the colony; and by representing him as

the author of the measure, to prejudice the country against it? Is it not prudent to embrace a lucky hint even if it comes from one, whom we may suppose our adversary? Have not the ablest Generals been taught useful lessons by their very enemies? Why am I so much mistaken, that I should be represented as a courtier, to the great surprise, I believe, of every one, who knows me? Have I ever done any thing more towards constituting that character, than showing a proper deference and respect to Gentlemen in authority; and is not this the duty of us all? Are not these Gentlemen set over us for our good? And, next to the Supreme Legislature of this colony, are they not the principal, legal guardians of our properties, our liberties, our lives? Why does a Gentleman throw out a hint that his "possessions" are in danger of being taken from him? Are they not as well secured by our laws, as those of any other subject? And why will he endeavour to lessen that authority, which is appointed to guard and protect them? Is it not strange that he should be so easily fired at the bare mention of a few truths, which happen to concern his friend's conduct, and at the same time take unbounded liberties with the characters of other Gentlemen, living as well as dead, and this without the least apparent reason? Did I hint it as my meaning that the late Treasurer was too subservient to the House of Burgesses in paying respect to their votes, as one Gentleman insinuates? Or does it follow, according to the opinion of another, because the late Treasurer paid twenty five hundred pounds to the Agent, that his successor would not do the same under the like circumstances? Or does he think that the instructions from England to the Governor to pass the late Treasurer's accounts would deter him from it? Does the Gentleman impute the gaining of this point to the weight of the late Speaker alone? If so, is not the conclusion in favour of my argument? But if it was more justly and properly to be ascribed to the WHOLE HOUSE OF BURGESSES, is there any thing pertinent in the observation? How can it be supposed that a worthy Gentleman, who is a candidate for the Chair, would be so very dissingenuous as to give it as his opinion in a public advertisement that the offices ought to be divided, and at the same time desire to be appointed to both places? Is it not a reflection upon his known good sense? Is it not strange to imagine that the Assembly would force the Treasury upon him against his opinion? Might not that Gentleman with equal justice suppose that the author of this insinuation thinks himself secure of his friend's success, and that therefore he runs no risk of being obliged to fulfil his promise? The suggestions, to which these queries relate, ought surely to be considered as so many "excrescences" in argument, which require the "hand of amputation," lest the truth should be clouded or disguised. One of the Gentlemen seems to be taken off my hands; if he really thinks there is any weight or merit in his *warm production*, I have not the smallest inclination to deprive him of it, and therefore, without any further remarks upon what he has said, I shall now give my attention more particularly to METRIOTES.

This Gentleman, whoever he is, though I may differ from him in his manner of reasoning, I must own has wrote with some temper and politeness; I admire his moderation and conciliating disposition; but is he sure of the soundness of all his notions, which he has given us as so many first principles? Is he confident that we ought always, and in every respect to speak "well of the dead" even at the expense of truth? If so, how comes it that the best historians have always chosen her for their guide? His favourite author, "Montaigne," I should have thought would have taught him better. He tells us of such a thing as doing a "private act of justice to the memory even of a Prince at the expense of public justice." Has this Gentleman considered the difference between asserting and proving things? Did he recollect how inconclusive the *petitio principii*, a mere begging of questions is in argument, tho' practised by the most subtle "argumentarian?" Why has he told us of Charondas of Thuria? The story is much too stale to provoke even a smile at this time of the day, though it possibly might have had this effect formerly, when it was more "novel." The fundamental principles of any constitution I own ought never to be touched, but with a delicate hand, though even these, I hope, he will allow have often been improved. Were Charondas's laws equal, as they ought; to have been just? Amongst the Thuriens all questions, it seems, were to be determined by the unanimous voice of the people; but with us by a majority; no rule ought ever to be more regarded, than the law of equality, this being equity and justice itself; if then the man is to be "strangled on the spot," who proposes a new regulation, which happens to be disapproved by a "majority," what ought to be his punishment, who opposes a measure, which may be attended with public benefits and which a great majority of the people may approve and be desirous of adopting? I wonder we were not also told the story of "the Ephorus, who so rudely cut the two strings," which "one Phrynis had added to music," without considering whether the harmony was increased, but merely because he thought them an "innovation;" perhaps the Gentleman may not be unwilling to allow that improvements have been made in that AGREEABLE SCIENCE. I agree pretty well with him in the first description he gives us of the Speaker, and the importance of his office; we act almost in UNISON too as to the decent support which ought to be allowed for his dignity, and only differ with respect to the mode of doing it.

The frugality, and parsimony of our ancestors is recommended; WOULD THE GENTLEMAN CHOOSE TO HAVE THIS IMITATED IN EVERY INSTANCE OF PUBLIC EXPENSE? Has he considered that there may be a kind of parsimony, especially in national concerns, which may be as prejudicial to a state as extravagance itself? Has he considered the difference between the infancy of a country and its state of manhood? The Gentleman has obliged us with an heroic portraiture of human nature; it is a beautiful picture I must confess, but fear it is too flattering and much too large for the life. Where did he learn the art of picking and dismembering sentences the better to favour his comment upon them? Or will he tell me how the dignity and mighty importance of a Speaker comes to be so much lessened in a few moments, as to be now only upon a level with the common crier of a court, and inferior to a parish schoolmaster? Compare the different passages together and tell me whether this is not a strange kind of reasoning; or should I rather call it TEMPORIZING?

The observations which I made upon the subject of influence, must be considered distinctly and compared together, or they cannot well be understood as I intended them; it was not my purpose to have said any thing more on this head, but finding that particular passages of what I wrote are culled by the Gentleman, the more conveniently to expose and turn them into ridicule; I hope I may be excused in asking him a few questions; will he grant that the prime Minister of any monarch upon earth has weight or influence? Has the Gentleman considered the powerful operations of hope and expectancy? If this Minister can oblige but few even with honorary distinctions, in comparison of the number, who may think they have an equal right to expect them at his hands, is not his also "a very indifferent way of acquiring" or supporting an influence? Does not the Gentleman's observation prove rather too much? What is it which obstructs the Gentleman's sight, that he cannot see the manner in which a reciprocal influence may operate? I do not know how to explain it to him in plainer words, than I have already made use of, unless I tell him, that a man may influence me in one respect, and I him in another. I am now to be detected in a gross blunder; the Gentleman's learned stricture upon my observation of the "difficulty in telling" the Speaker to his face, while he is sitting in the Chair " &c," I presume was designed as a display of his great skill and precision in parliamentary business; the House, I own, may resolve itself into a committee, whenever the members please; it is seldom done but in matters of some moment, chiefly for the benefit of greater freedom in debate; but does the House ever of course resolve itself into a committee, because the subject to come under consideration relates to the Treasury or his office? Are not all accounts, those of the Treasury as well as others, more properly to be referred, in the first instance, to a private, select committee? Some times in England they have been referred to a secret committee; the report from either of these is first laid before the House; the Speaker is now in the Chair, and the subject must first be proposed, before the members determine whether they will go into a committee or not; if the Speaker quits the Chair for a time, when the House resolves itself into a committee, does he, if he has any influence, leave that behind him, or does it not rather accompany him into the committee, where he will have a greater opportunity of exerting himself? The resolutions of the committee being formed are not final, but the Speaker must resume the Chair, and then these resolutions are to be agreed or disagreed to by the House, before they can be carried into effect: May I not now with great propriety retort the Gentleman's quotation, and say; SIMUNDUS VULT DECIPI DECIPIATUR? And may I not also give it as my advice that care be taken NE QUID DETRIMENTI RESPUBLICA ACCIPIAT.

I must now pay my dutiful respects to my dear friend the "Honest Buckskin," and wish I could make the same general remarks on his letter, which I did upon the last performance: In what, pray, have I shewn the least "acrimony" or "indecency?" I have indeed spoke the truth and hope this cannot be too glaring for any honest man's eyes. What is it which the Gentleman's "intimacy," "affection and connexions" have restrained him from doing? After "pretty fully digesting my hints and arguments," and from the temper he seems to be in, I must suppose he has favoured the publick with his best and most cogent arguments; what is there then left behind? Does he mean to insinuate that he has any thing in *petto*, that I may be afraid or ashamed to have known? I have exposed myself, as it were, a *petitio principii* to be shot at, and I know that some men are extremely dexterous at hitting a blot; let him, upon this occasion, discharge himself of all restrictive considerations; let him, "disencumber" himself, speak out and spare me not. I am forbid, it seems, to "criticise on" "any inconnexion" or "incorrectness" in this letter; with how great latitude he intended I should consider this prohibition I do not know; if he designed it should be applied to incorrect or unconnected reasoning, I suppose it amounts to a command of silence and I must drop my pen. If he will be pleased first to expunge his "poisonous hints," I will gladly decline every kind of altercation with him; but I fear they are spread too far ever to be recalled; he must excuse me therefore if I endeavour to guard against their malignancy. How can it be expected that I should agree with Gentlemen, writing in defence of the same principles, when they differ so very widely from themselves and each other? THE SPEAKER OF OUR HOUSE OF BURGESSES, the first man amongst the people, his office and the dignity, which that necessarily gives him, are all, for a particular purpose, to be compared to a "child," nay even to a "feather;" and the Gentleman presuming upon the justness of this observation, uses it as an argument to fix upon me an absurdity, and thence draws his favourite conclusion, that the "evil of the Treasury may be as possible without the Chair as it can be with it, except in an ideal trifle." Is not here an entire begging of the question throughout the whole sentence? But perhaps I have not allowed the same specific gravity to these feathers of his, that he intended; I know they are sometimes very pretty things and often have a mighty influence, if properly applied to some objects. Has he considered how fallacious a method of reasoning it is to argue *ab extremis*, without a proper medium of union? To fly from possibility to possibility in argument is just as if a man "PRO VIRILI" should attempt to jump A GADIBUS USQUE AD GANGEM, or from Dan to Beersheba. Take a short view of the question: Reasons are offered why two important offices should not again be united; the Gentleman insists that the ancient mode ought still to prevail; and tells us that a separation will be the means of placing the Treasury out of the controul of the House of Burgesses; this, if I understand him rightly, is his meaning, however his words may be turned and twisted; the objection is his own, and I should therefore suppose it his business to prove the justice and propriety of it; otherwise a man may be allowed to start objections, which have no existence in nature, against the soundest reasoning; but how does he support this? By telling me I have not proved that a disunion of the offices "cannot be a means" of placing the Treasury out of the controul of the House of Burgesses; if, this is "logic," I own, I am a stranger to common sense. His "comparative closets" and abundance of other sounding words, with which this sentence abounds, may be proper materials for a florid declamation, but they surely cannot supply the place of just

arguments. The Gentleman may "smile" and sneer, if he pleases, at my observation upon the difficulties in removing the Treasury from the Chair, if they should be again united, and the shock, which the constitution might receive; would he force me to explain myself? It is extremely disagreeable to do so, and therefore I must once more take the liberty of referring this matter to his own reflexion. If he cannot see the difference between a Speaker newly elected, and one, who has enjoyed that and the Treasurer's office for a great number of years, I cannot help it; but, if he supposes that the late Speaker's successor is likely at once to gain the same influence, which he is supposed to have had, the necessity of endeavouring to guard the publick against it is the more evident.

There is with me a great difference between "alarming" the country" and modestly proposing a subject for their serious consideration; I have not said that it is necessary to tax the people anew; but if this should be thought expedient to preserve our publick faith, where would be the inconsistency in putting ourselves to a further moderate expense, which would hardly be felt, to guard against what may prove a general, lasting inconvenience, and the highest reflexion upon our publick conduct? The Gentleman's own queries upon this head must appear to have been calculated to "alarm" the people with the mere name of taxes, which I own ought carefully to be avoided; but has he considered the effects of an ill timed parsimony? Has he considered the various methods by which the dignity of the Chair may be supported without the country's being sensible of the expense? I will undertake that he shall not groan under it, if that is his greatest fear.

The Gentleman seems to blame me for publishing what he calls my "discoveries" at the Treasury; I mentioned indeed the sum of money remaining in my hands as Treasurer, which I should have done, in justice to myself, and in obedience to an express order of the House of Burgesses, had I laid nothing upon the subject in debate, that I might not have been unjustly censured for neglecting to take in the notes, whose time of redemption is past; what else have I discovered, which was not known before I wrote? A very considerable deficiency was publickly spoke of before I knew it, or was appointed to the office; the sums, which ought to have been paid into the Treasury every year, compared with the reports of the several committees appointed to examine the publick accounts, and the disbursements, which many had met with in not having their old notes exchanged according to repeated publick advertisements, by which they were invited to bring them in, plainly enough pointed out the state of the Treasury and the deficiency of the money. But suppose I had first made the "discovery," though I never pretended to claim the merit of it? Could there be any thing criminal in divulging it? Ought our Publick Treasury to be considered as an office of secrecy? The Gentleman may endeavour, "if he pleases, to throw a "shade over my conduct," but why should this affect or give me the least concern? Why should I be even surprised at it, when I find the sacred names of "CHARITY" and "CHRISTIANITY" prostituted to varnish a sort of conduct, which can admit of no excuse? He indeed, with Philautus, would have us think that he does not pretend to justify it, but do not their extraordinary palliatives, which must be offensive to common sense, amount to the same thing? Nay are they not more dangerous, and of much worse tendency than a downright justification? This would be too gross to gain admittance; the others may blind or mislead the credulous and unwary. Now come my "poisonous hints;" but why will the Gentleman suppose that I intended to asperse his "character, with that of many others," in what I said about the "opposition made to the appointment of burning committees?" How did he know but that I intended to rank him amongst those who are "superior to every influence?" Must it not appear from his manner of putting this question, that he had dipped his pen in the very gall of bitterness? I will own the truth; I intended the observation for the late Treasurer, and I do aver that, so long as I continued in the House of Burgesses, he did oppose the clauses which were proposed to be added to the money bills for burning the notes as they were brought into the Treasury, and I have been credibly informed that he continued uniform in his opposition to the last; when the first burning committee was proposed, I was present; the motion to me was sudden and unexpected, and therefore I had not sufficient time to consider it; the late Gentleman represented it as a reflection upon his character; I had so high an opinion of his good conduct and so little doubt of his complying with the laws relating to the management of the Treasury, that I voted against the motion, and am willing to suppose, if the Gentleman will permit me, that a majority was influenced by the same motives. I was not so curious as to observe the particular members, who voted *pro* or *con*, and did not recollect which side of the question was favoured with the Gentleman's voice, until he informed me by his letter; I ought indeed, had I known his capacity for searching into the most remote and hidden powers of a "possibility," to have supposed that we were opposites; since he has favoured us with this piece of intelligence, though I may not be able to "point out the influence that governed my friend," yet I must take the liberty of saying that the reason which he has assigned seems to me but a very indifferent one. When the first emission of the Treasury notes was proposed, many Gentlemen were alarmed, the expedient being quite new in this country; we were then told that the taxes would every year bring a certain proportion of this money into the Treasury, where it would sink of course; upon this principle the laws were formed, by which the Treasurer was expressly forbid applying the taxes to any other purpose than the redemption of the Treasury notes; the design of proposing a committee to burn the money, as was fully explained at a subsequent session, when the act passed for destroying all the notes redeemable in 1765, was to avoid the confusion and ill consequences which might arise from any accident to the Treasury either by fire, or otherwise, and to satisfy the publick that the notes were actually burnt according to the first design. Now, I say, if the Gentleman only objected to the first motion, because he looked upon it as levelled against the "lenity of the Treasurer in not extending the severity of the laws against the collectors," this must appear to be a bad reason for his opposition, because the several estimates would have shown nearly what ought to have been collected every year, and it would or ought to have appeared from the publick accounts what had actually

been received into the Treasury, which was proposed to be burnt; so that the lenity of the Treasurer or the remission of the collectors would have been equal to the leniency of the committee was appointed or not. What I have said on this head is true, and that it is to be proved by numbers, I submit it to others to judge with how much justice I have been accused of dealing out "poison;" or if it can be imputed as a crime that a man speaks the truth even of the dead in matters, which so essentially concern the publick weal, I own myself the culprit. It might have been more agreeable to this Gentleman, as he seems to hint, to have had the publick accounts fairly and justly settled, and that nothing should have been said as to trifling a mismanagement of our Treasury; but surely he does not think a thing of this nature ought to be kept secret. Why do Gentlemen represent me as broaching a "novel" and unheard of doctrine in supposing that a Speaker and Treasurer may have an undue influence? Have not many worthy Gentlemen, at present Burgesses, and many others, who have retired from publick business, entertained and often expressed the same sentiments? Is this particular Gentleman sure that he has never been heard to complain of a former influence, which he would now have thought an imaginary fiction of my brain? Is he certain that, at the time of penning his thoughts, he was quite calm and serene, free from every influence, either of PASSION, PERSUASION, SOLICITATION, OR PRE-ENGAGEMENT? PROH TEMPORA! QUOMODO MUTANTUR! I hold myself indeed much obliged to my dear friend for the second place in his favour; but does he "really" think, if he considers me as endeavouring to subvert the liberties of his "dear country", that I am an object worthy his countenance or regard? Should I not rather, according to Metriotes's opinion, be declared utterly "unfit for every purpose of government, and a wretch that ought to be exterminated from the society of honest men?" I am but an individual, and therefore, perhaps little to be regarded; if I have transgressed the sacred line of truth, let me be treated as a calumniator deserves; if I have given offence, or rendered myself obnoxious to any, let me by such be disregarded and thrown out of the question; but, as the cause, which I have engaged in, is that of my country, let her and her important interests be duly attended to, and weighed with proper temper in the scale of upright and impartial reason. I could with all the warmth of exclamation have cried aloud O liberty! O my country! but what would this have been more than vox & prætoria nihil? Mere empty sounds indeed. I now take leave of the Honest Buckskin; him I know full well, but who is "PHILAUTOS?" Surely he cannot be the offspring of that labouring mountain, which the important "Tit for Tat" was sent, harbinger like, to inform the world was in pangs and near its delivery. This Gentleman, I find, is for measuring every other man's corn by his own bushel, which is about as polite a proverb as the "old woman and the oven," and just as much to the purpose. He, like some others I suppose, would establish ridicule as the test and criterion of truth; but, supposing for once the principle to be just, has not the Gentleman strangely mistaken his talent in endeavouring to draw it out into use? Has he considered the difference between tinsel and sterling wit? The latter may take if properly applied; but the former is so nearly allied to buffoonery, that it never should extort even a smile from a man of sense. Satire and railery of the very best kind ought always to have truth for their basis, or else they degenerate into base calumny, and the authors of them should be treated with the most sovereign contempt. Pray where did this polite Gentleman learn, as he seems to insinuate, that "R. C. N." had ever indulged to much as a wish to succeed to the Speaker's Chair? He is desired to give a good reason for this suggestion, or to take to himself that shame, which ought to be the portion of all those who delight in scandal. Trifling as this performance is and must be considered by every one of discernment, yet with some it might possibly have its designed effect, otherwise I should have thought the author beneath my notice. He, like some others, introduces himself under the mask and guise of a friend, with a design, I suppose, to steal upon the reader before he is aware, and by that means to give the man he opposes a more deadly blow, than if he had acted the open and avowed enemy; but I disclaim, I abhor such friendships. Does he not himself point out to us his own unfairness and want of candour, and at the same time show his malevolence and extreme ill nature? He admits the expediency of disuniting the offices, and confesses his own thoughts to have been agreeably "expressed in my arguments;" why then, if the end I have aimed at, even in his opinion, is just and right, should he impute my conduct to motives, which I have disavowed? Is he not strangely partial in censuring one man, whom he confessed to be in the right, when he is so extravagant in his encomiums upon another, whose conduct he would not be thought to justify? This Gentleman hopes I shall "either be kept out of the office, or that the House of Burgesses will forbid my being so rigid with those indebted to the publick;" in what have I shown a disposition to exercise any extraordinary rigour? I have indeed, as the duty of my office obliged me, called pretty earnestly upon the collectors of the taxes; but I should not have said any thing about the present collection, until I was able to form some judgment, whether the officers did their duties or not; the very great arrears due to the Treasury for many years past, some as far back as the year 1755, were what I had chiefly in contemplation, when I published my advertisement; in this I could have no inclination to distress the people, who I must have supposed had paid their taxes pretty regularly to the several collectors; and whether these Gentlemen ought to be called upon for the publick money they have received and not paid into the Treasury, I leave to others to determine.

The Gentlemen surely did not consider the tendency of their arguments before they were published; "the lending out the publick money, we are told, was not justifiable on the strict principles of rectitude; BUT IF IT CAN BE CALLED AN OFFENCE, it is certainly a venial one;" venial with me I own it is; let us first do justice to a whole community; let us first declare our abhorrence of such a piece of misconduct by guarding effectually against the like inconveniences for the future; we may then endeavour to bury in utter oblivion all that has been amiss, and cheerfully offer our mites towards celebrating the praises of whatever was amiable and lovely. But are not the present

laboured apologies, however nicely tricked up with all the ornaments of sounding periods, the grossest insults upon our understandings? "The Speaker knew that the circulating cash was deficient, and that it was not in the power of the Assembly to satisfy the general want of the publick by a new emission of paper currency; he knew that the publick could sustain no loss, as his own estate, &c. would be a sufficient indemnification, and that before the money advanced could be called for, it would be replaced in the Treasury." The Speaker might with reason have been satisfied of the sufficiency of his own and his securities estates; but I will take upon me to say that he knew none of the other things. It seems, according to this Gentleman, he knew he had a power superior to the whole Legislature; and that he could dispense with their laws made to regulate his own steps; he might perhaps have foreseen also what an able champion would survive him to justify his conduct. I should be glad to have a good reason assigned, why, if the money was to have been re-issued, there was not publick notice given of it, that the "edge of every man's penury, and the pungency of his distress, might have been taken off" and alleviated, at least in proportion to the taxes he had paid into the FISCAL. I give you this as a specimen of Metriotes's last performance, which I have but lately seen, so far as it relates to me. Is it not a little odd that a Gentleman, who has so much more "advantageous purposes" to exercise his "tongue and fingers" should misemploy those noble members in so strange a manner? Is it not amazing that the man of "perspicuity" and candour should attempt to cloud the understandings of his readers by first endeavouring to tickle their fancies with fulsome compliments, and then to persuade them out of their senses? But perhaps this may be accounted for from the unalterable resolution he had formed to consider at all events every thing said of his friend, "which was not a panegyric," as amounting to "detraction;" this really seems to have been the foundation upon which the Gentleman began to build, and therefore it might be necessary that the superstructure should square with it. How could the Gentleman be at a loss to know the meaning of "influence?" Had he paused a little, and only anticipated what he intended to say, he surely might have spared his formal definition, as the whole course of his reasoning must appear to be a much better and more lively comment upon this word, than any particular terms he could invent: I may be mistaken; but cannot help asking whether this Gentleman, as well as some others, has not furnished at least a strong suspicion that there was and is an influence, or something very much like it, still prevailing? The proper and effectual remedy must be administered by "superior judges." Could I with certainty know who Metriotes, that Gentleman of temper and moderation, really is, I should then be able to determine whether he can be affected by the union or disunion of offices, or by an augmentation or diminution of salaries; I do not mean to call his veracity in question; for I cannot but look upon what he has said, in some sort, as a mere sport of fancy, when I find him exhibiting a second time, after assuring us that he would not "again be drawn into service."

I have endeavoured, as much as possible, to avoid a repetition of what I formerly wrote upon the subject, as the reader may easily have recourse to and compare it with what has been said in answer; I might now with propriety enough proceed to consider the several observations, which I have seen and heard made upon the subject of exchange, and how that has been affected; I think I could with ease point out the fallacy of all those alluring arguments which have been used to shew the advantages the country has received from the re-emission of our Treasury notes, and prove on the contrary very clearly the destructive consequences of such a step, as well to individuals, as to the credit of the publick in general; but these things might carry me to the extent of a large pamphlet, and may more properly be discussed in another place. I therefore for the present bid the Gentlemen all adieu, and am, Sir, your most obedient servant, RO. C. NICHOLAS.

VIRGINIA, &c.

By the Hon^{ble} FRANCIS FAUQUIER, Esq; his Majesty's Lieutenant Governour, and Commander in Chief of the said Colony and Dominion:

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS I have lately received letters from his Excellency Major General Gage, and Major William Murray, commanding officer at Fort Pitt, informing me that several people of Virginia have seated themselves on lands belonging to the Indians, to the westward of the Allegheny mountains, and contiguous to the river Cheat, in disobedience to his Majesty's commands (notified by two proclamations of the 7th of October 1763, and the 10th of April 1766) in violation of the friendship subsisting between us and the said Indians, and in contempt of the dreadful consequences which I am warned are to be suddenly apprehended from such unjust and licentious proceedings: I have therefore, to put a stop to these and all other the like encroachments for the future, thought fit, by and with the advice of his Majesty's Council, to issue this proclamation, in his Majesty's name, hereby strictly enjoining and requiring all persons who have made such settlements immediately to evacuate the same, and to pay the strictest obedience hereafter to his Majesty's commands herein signified; which if they shall fail to do they must expect no protection or mercy from Government, and be exposed to the revenge of the exasperated Indians.

GIVEN under my hand, and the seal of the colony, at WILLIAMSBURG, this 31st day of July, 1766, and in the 6th year of his Majesty's reign.

FRANCIS FAUQUIER.

GOD save the KING.

WHEREAS, by the advice

of the Council, I published an advertisement notifying the loss the inhabitants sustained by fire at Montreal, amounting to £.87,580-8-10 halfpenny; in which it was recommended to the Ministers to preach proper sermons on the occasion, and to the Church-wardens to make collections. In consequence thereof, I have received the following sums, to wit.

York Hampton parish,	£. 15	3	6
Warwick do.	3	10	0
St. Mary's, Caroline,	13	16	10
Bruton,	30	7	5
Norfolk,	28	0	0
Warwick more,	1	8	3
St. John's, King William,	17	13	0
Blissland, New Kent,	8	7	4
Elizabeth City,	5	7	6
St. David's, King William,	8	1	3
	£. 131	15	3

All Church-wardens that have made collections in their respective parishes are desired to pay them in, and in those parishes where collections have not already been made, it is again recommended to the Ministers and Church-wardens that they be assisting in this charitable work, that the collections may be paid in by the October General Court; at which time I propose to make remittances, for the relief of these poor people.

FRANCIS FAUQUIER.

Advertisements.

WILLIAMSBURG, AUGUST 29, 1766.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Mrs. FRANCES WEBB, deceased, are desired to make payment, and those who have any demands against the same to apply to WILLIAM WATERS, Adm.



VIRGINIA, &c.

By the Honourable FRANCIS FAUQUIER, Esq; his Majesty's Lieutenant Governour, and Commander in Chief of the said Colony and Dominion:

A PROCLAMATION,

For proroguing of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

WHEREAS the GENERAL ASSEMBLY stands prorogued to the first Thursday in September next, and whereas I find no urgent occasion for the said Assembly's meeting at that time, I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of his Majesty's Council, by this proclamation, in his Majesty's name, further to prorogue the said Assembly to the first Thursday in November next; at which time their attendance is required at the Capitol, for despatch of publick business.

GIVEN under my hand, and the seal of the colony, at Williamsburg, this 11th day of August, 1766, and in the 6th year of his Majesty's reign.

FRANCIS FAUQUIER.

GOD save the KING.

To be SOLD to the highest bidders, at Richmond town, on Monday the 6th of October next, being Henrico court day,

2 A LOT in the said town, near Shockoe creek, with a good convenient dwelling-house with four rooms on the lower floor, and several out-houses, a valuable Virginia born Negro woman and child, a horse, and some household furniture; by virtue of a deed of trust made to us by Mr. Robert Elliott. Six months credit will be allowed, the purchasers giving bond and security to
ALEXANDER M'CAUL.
JOHN PRIDE, Jun.

STRAYED or STOLEN, the 13th of February last, a dark bay mare, about 4 feet 8 inches high, with a star in her forehead, one hind foot white, has been burnt for a fitula, has white rings round her fore feet done by habbling, white hairs under her main, had a bell on, and branded on the off buttock RP. Whoever brings the said mare to me, in King William county, shall have 20s. reward.

DAVID LYLE.

TAKEN up, in Mecklenburg, a likely sorrel mare, about 4 years old, about 4 feet 8 inches high, with a blaze in her face, paces well, doct, but not branded; posted, and appraised to 10l.

WILLIAM DAVIS.

For SALE, by the subscriber at Norfolk,

3 CHOICE Barbados RUM, at 2s. 9d. a gallon.
JOHN TUCKER.

To be SOLD to the highest bidder, on Monday the 22d of September next, at Fauquier court-house,

3 ABOUT three thousand acres of LAND, belonging to the estate of Armistead Churchill, being part of a tract of land commonly known by the name of Pageland, lying in the county of Fauquier. The time of payment will be agreed on at the sale, the purchaser giving bond and security to
The EXECUTORS.

To be SOLD, in Cumberland county, on the premises, on Thursday the 18th of September next, to the highest bidder,

3 A VALUABLE tract of LAND, lying on the branches of Great Guinea creek, in the said county, containing 636 acres, with a good plantation thereon, well situated, a large dwelling-house, with three rooms on the lower and two on the upper floor, brick chimnies, a good cellar, and underpinned; a large kitchen, with all other convenient houses for cropping; a large apple orchard, peach orchard, cherry orchard, pears, damsons, and sundry other kinds of fruit trees; a large garden, with sundry kinds of medicinal roots and plants; also a water grist mill, on a very constant stream. It is a convenient, pleasant, healthy settlement, well watered by several good cool springs, and is a very good place for all kinds of stocks of cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, &c. Any person inclinable to purchase may see the land before the day of sale, by applying to the subscribers, near the premises. The time of payment will be agreed upon at the day of sale, and made as easy as possible.

THOMAS DAVENPORT.
WILLIAM DAVENPORT.
JOSEPH CALLAND.

To be SOLD, on Monday the 15th of September, at Dinwiddie court-house, being court day,

3 EIGHT hundred acres of LAND, lying on both sides of Namozee creek; the land is very fine, and has all necessary buildings thereon for cropping. Also 350 acres of good land, lying on the branches of White Oak. These lands were lately the property of Leonard Claiborne, jun. and are sold under a decree of Dinwiddie court, in which county they lie. Twelve months credit will be allowed, the purchasers giving bond and sufficient security to
GRAY BRIGGS.
NEIL BUCHANAN, sen.
PETER WILLIAMS.
GARDNER MAYES.

N. B. These lands were advertised some time since, but some accidents prevented a sale at the time appointed; and the publick may depend the lands will certainly be sold on the day now fixed.

To be SOLD, altogether or in parcels, on reasonable terms,

3 EIGHT thousand acres of LAND in Halifax county, a great part of which is low grounds, and very rich high land, and is conveniently situated for many good settlements, as it extends on a large creek several miles. Application was formerly made to me for it by some Pennsylvania, but at that time I had no title; this informs them that the title is now in me, and if they, or any other person, are inclinable to purchase, they may apply to me in Charlotte county.

CLEMENT READ.

To be SOLD at publick auction, the 18th day of September next, altogether or in parcels, on the premises,

FIFTEEN hundred acres of good Land, with a large plantation on it, lying on Kettle Run, in Fauquier county; also to be sold, on the 22d day of said month, another tract of good land, on or near Goose creek, in the aforesaid county, containing 7750 acres, where are upwards of twenty tenements. The first mentioned land lies about 22 miles from the town of Dumfries, and the other about 50 miles. Twelve months credit will be allowed, and 5 per cent. discount for ready money.

4l

BURGESS SMITH.

To be SOLD, in CHARLOTTE county, on very reasonable terms,

VARIOUS tracts of LAND within the said county consisting of valuable high and low grounds, with several plantations thereon. Any person inclinable to purchase will be shown the lands, and know the terms by applying to
ABRAHAM MARTIN.

To be SOLD to the highest bidder, on the premises, the 3d Wednesday in October next,

FOUR hundred and forty one acres of LAND, situate in the county of Prince George, about 2 miles from Coggins Point, 12 miles from Petersburg, and the same distance from Cabin Point; there is on the land a dwelling-house 20 by 16, a very good orchard, and 2 corn-houses; it is extremely well timbered, and a very good soil. There is a tenant on the land, who will show it to any person inclinable to purchase. Two years credit will be given, on bond and security.

THOMAS PINCKARD.

To be SOLD, for ready money, on Saturday the 20th of September next, at Stewart's ordinary, in Brunswick county,

SEVERAL likely Virginia born SLAVES, now in the occupation, and lately the property of Thomas Vines; amongst which are two women that understand household business. A good time will be made the purchasers, or purchaser, by
RICHARD KELLO.

To be SOLD,

A TRACT of LAND, lying on the head of Briar river, in Prince Edward county, containing 789 acres; it is an exceeding good soil for tobacco, and there is fresh ground cleared sufficient to work ten hands, a dwelling-house with brick chimnies, all convenient out-houses, and plenty of good tobacco houses, on the land good apple and peach orchards, and a new overshot grist mill. Any person inclinable to purchase may have it on very reasonable terms, by applying to me on the premises.
MATTHEWS FLOURNOY.

To be SOLD at publick auction, the 10th day of September next, in the county of Amelia, near Clement's mill, on the premises,

N EIGHTEEN hundred acres of good LAND, belonging to the estate of Marlow Dudley, deceased, pursuant to his last will; it has all improvements fit for the reception of 6 or 8 hands, and an overseer. Two years credit will be allowed the purchaser, on giving bond and security to
JOSEPH EGGLESTON.
WILLIAM MOULSON.

3 RUN away from the subscriber in Prince Edward county, some time in March last, a Virginia born Negro fellow named SAMPSON, near 6 feet high, has small legs, two of his fore fingers (I believe on his right hand) were burned when he was small, and are now much crooked; had on when he went away an old German serge coat, fine linen shirt, and osnaburg trousers. Whoever brings the said Negro to me shall have two pittoles reward, besides what the law allows.

RICHARD WOODSON.

TAKEN up, in Suffolk, a black horse, about 4 feet 5 inches high, about 14 years old, with a small white spot in his forehead, several saddle spots on his back, shod before, has a bob tail and mane, but not branded; posted, and appraised to 30s.

TIMOTHY EZELL.

TAKEN up, in Louisa, a bay mare, about 4 feet 8 inches high, with a fore back, her tail well mixed with white hairs, branded on the near shoulder C, and on the near buttock TF; also a sorrel mare colt, that sucks the above mare, about two years old, about 4 feet 7 or 8 inches high, with a small blaze in her face, a small snip on her off nostril, both hind feet white near as high as her footlocks, but neither doct nor branded.

JOHN POINDEXTER.

TAKEN up, in Louisa, a sorrel horse, about 6 years old, about 14 hands high, paces naturally, has a blaze in his face, his hind feet white, and branded on the near buttock resembling a heart; posted, and appraised to 6l.

GEORGE HOLLAND.

TAKEN up, in James City, a bright bay mare, about 13 hands high, with a star in her forehead, a short switch tail, but no brand perceivable; posted, and appraised to 5l.

WILLIAM GRAVES.

To be SOLD, and entered on this Fall,

3 A VALUABLE tract of LAND in Augusta county, lying on Shenando river, nigh the line with Frederick county, and commonly known by the name of Macredie's quarter, being part of the estate of Thomas Macredie, deceased. The tract contains nigh 500 acres, above 300 of which are rich low grounds, the remainder good high land, well wooded and watered. The low grounds lie chiefly on the river (which bends almost round the plantation) and in many places they are nigh a quarter of a mile wide; about 50 acres of them are cleared, and a little of the high land. There is a large peach orchard on the plantation, an overseer's house, and other conveniences. The terms of payment will be made easy to the purchaser.

ALEXANDER CUNINGHAME,
Attorney for the heir.

To be SOLD for tobacco, bills of exchange, cash, or short credit,

4 FOUR LOTS in Hanover town, whereon I lately lived, which rent at present for 75l. annually. Any person inclinable to purchase any, or the whole of the above lots, may know the terms by applying to Mr. Alexander Donald in said town, or to me in Caroline county, at New Flanders.

WILLIAM DUDLEY.

3 RUN away from the subscriber in Lunenburg, a Negro fellow named Will, rather inclined to a yellow than black complexion, about 34 years of age, 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, well made, is very active, and has a bad countenance; had on osnaburg shirt and trousers, a light coloured duffel great coat, and a Virginia made hat about half wore. I purchased him of Major William Taylor, in Hanover county. Whoever apprehends the said Negro, and conveys him to me, shall have a reward, if taken within the colony, and if out thereof 2l.

WILLIAM TAYLOR.

To be SOLD,

3 EIGHT hundred and eighty six acres of LAND, on Little Roanoke river, in Charlotte county, about 4 miles from the court-house. Also a tract of land in Louisa county, containing 385 acres, with convenient buildings, and in good order for cropping. Likewise 62 acres in said county, with a mill, and the plantation in good order for working two hands. Any person inclinable to purchase any of the above tracts may have them on very reasonable terms by applying to me in Louisa, as soon as convenient.

JOHN ANDERSON.

N. B. Any person that wants very good bushes and gudgeons for an overshot mill, may have them by applying as above.

To be SOLD, and entered on this fall,

3 A TRACT of LAND and PLANTATION, containing 700 acres, lying on both sides of Cat Tail creek, in Dinwiddie county, about 13 miles from Petersburg, with all necessary houses for cropping, and fresh ground, both for corn and tobacco, cleared to work 8 hands. Any person inclinable to purchase may treat for the same with the subscriber, on the premises.

HAMLIN EPES.

To be SOLD to the highest bidder, on the first Thursday in October next, (if fair, otherwise next fair day) altogether, or in parcels,

3 A TRACT of LAND, lying in Orange county, containing 1120 acres; there are pretty good buildings on the plantation, and a very good apple orchard. Also the stock of cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, and other commodities. The terms will be agreed upon at the day of sale.

EDWIN FLEET.

Scheme of a Lottery

FOR disposing of 146 lots of

3 LAND, in the town of Hanover, yet remaining unsold.—The least valuable of the lots, according to the prices of those most remote from the water, which have been sold, not being less than 20l. which is far below a medium between that sum and what was given for several near the water, the unsold lots are rated at 30l. each, accounting 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, on which Page's warehouses stand, one lot; and 24, 35, 36, 47, 48, 49, on which Crutchfield's warehouses stand, one other lot only, so that there will be but 137 lots in the whole to be drawn for; and it is proposed that there shall be no more than that number of chances, and consequently no blanks. The consideration money will not be required of Gentlemen willing to become adventurers, and subscribing to the scheme, until April next; when it is to be paid to the proprietor at Williamsburg, either in cash, or 3000wt. of tobacco. The drawing will be soon after the subscription shall be completed, of which notice shall be given in the Virginia Gazette. Robert Carter Nicholas, George Wythe, Thomas Everard, John Thompson, and Jerman Baker, Esquires, will be managers of the lottery, or any three of them.

MANN PAGE.

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